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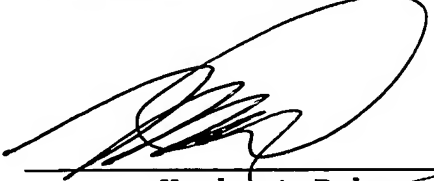
TRANSLATOR'S AFFIDAVIT

I, Herbert Dubno, a citizen of the United States of America, residing in Bronx (Riverdale), New York, depose and state that:

I am familiar with the English and German languages;

I have read a copy of the German-language document attached hereto, namely PCT/EP03/03860; and

The hereto-attached English-language text is an accurate translation of the above-identified German-language document.


Herbert Dubno

Sworn to and subscribed before me
14 October 2004


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T R A N S L A T I O N

METHOD OF PRODUCING CRYOGENIC, MONERGOLIC SOLID PROPELLANTS [SOLID
MONOPROPELLANTS] AND THE SOLID PROPELLANTS PRODUCED THEREBY

The invention relates to a method of producing monergole
5 solid propellants [solid monopropellants] cooled below room
temperature (cryogenics) especially from heterogeneous liquid/solid
propellants in which at least one of the reactants as oxidizer or
fuel contains a phase which is liquid or gas at standard [normal]
temperature, for example an emulsion of mutually insoluble liquid
10 components, suspensions of solids in liquid components or
liquid/impregnated bulk material.

The invention relates further to a solid propellant
cooled below room temperature [cryogenic solid propellant] for
rocket drives, especially a heterogeneous quasimonergole
15 [monopropellant] propellant-oxidizer combination in which at least
one of the reactants is a liquid or gas phase at standard
temperature, for example, an emulsion of liquid components which
are not mutually soluble, a suspension of a solid component in a
liquid component, or a liquid impregnated bulk material.

The invention is thus in the technological field of propellants for rocket drives and their fabrication and the development of solid propellant combinations. As such, it should be understood that within the framework of the invention are
5 specific geometric forms of simple propellant blocks and assemblies thereof. This encompasses as well possible inclusions such as baffles and the like which can be incorporated in the block and which in uncooled propellants capable of storage are included for mechanical reasons as seals, combustion inhibitors, as melt loss
10 inhibitors or for other reasons and in the case of cryogenic solid propellants serve for or as support, filling, emptying or cooling devices. In both cases, during combustion or firing, in operation they may be completely or partly burned up.

With all known rocket fuels, the components are in a
15 liquid and/or solid aggregation state and serve as oxidizers or as fuel. Many have still other functions and can act for example as binders or additives.

Independently of the state of aggregation, propellant substances whether having oxidizer or fuel functions can be
20 considered as individual or monergole substances (single component fuel substance). By separating the functions for different components, one can have diergoles. Monergoles can, dependent on their phase structure and their molecular composition a homogeneous
2: or heterogeneous aggregation state. Examples of homogenous

monergoles as liquid propellants are hydrogen peroxide, hydrazine and nitroglycerin. Heterogeneous monergoles encompass for example emulsions of liquid components which are not mutually soluble.

An entire series of preparations for rocket drives are known which have at least one of the components in a liquid phase at standard temperature (US 2 802 332, US 3 367 268, US 3 398 215, US 3 687 746, US 3 697 455, US 3 703 080).

US 2 802 332 describes a propellant system for a liquid rocket which has a structure formed by a multiplicity of cells. Each of these cells contains at least one reactant. The walls of the cell-like structure are comprised of polyethylene, Teflon or silicone rubber. The individual cells are connected with one another by openings.

The state of the art of US patent 3,367,268 deals with a hybrid rocket propellant system which is formed by a solid polymeric cell-like rubber substance which forms an intercellular matrix. In this matrix pulverulent fuel, for example, a light metal powder from groups II and III of the periodic system of the elements and reinforcing fibers are embedded. The pores contain a liquid oxidizer.

In US Patent 3 398 215 a method of making a rocket propellant system is described in which a hardenable rubber polymer

is mixed with pulverulent metal fuel and a hardener and is treated as an organic preparation. The rubber polymer is selected from the group of rubber-like hydrocarbons and the halogenated hydrocarbon rubbers. As the metal fuel, powders of aluminum, boron, titanium, beryllium, magnesium and lithium are used. The organic preparation boils at 70 to 200°C and is compatible with the polymer. It is evaporated at the hardening temperature of 120°C to 205°C in the composite to form pores or cells therein. The foam-like matrix contains the metal fuel and forms a phase which holds together. The matrix is then immersed in an oxidizer liquid so that the pores are filled with the oxidizer liquid. All of these known solutions have the common drawback that they are able to achieve only a very low power level and are complicated in their construction and handling.

It is also known to fabricate propellant systems in very different geometric forms. They can however be divided coarsely into two categories, namely, internal burners with a plurality of radially-directed burn-up segments and end burners with a plurality of axially directed burn-up segments.

Apart from monergole propellants [monopropellants] there are known propellants which contain the fuel and oxidizer as separate elements in various geometric arrangements. Examples are radially burning disk stacks or rod-in-matrix end burners (R.E.LO, N.EISENRIECH; "Modulare und kryogene Feststofftreibsätze - eine neue Klasse chemischer Raketenantriebe", Deutscher Luft- und

Raumfahrtkongress, DGLR-JT98-104; Bremen, 7.10.1998; Jahrbuch 1998, Band 2, S. 1231) (Modular and cryogenic solid propellant systems - a new class of chemical rocket drives). Such arrangements are designated as modular drive systems. Modular drive systems with which modular elements are in the diergole [two component preparants] classification. The burn involves a diffusion frame with so-called boundary layer burns which is not followed or not easily followed by a transition to an end controlled explosion or destination. One should also distinguish encapsulated components propellants from modular propellants. The goal of encapsulation is the mutual separation of reactive liquids and thereby the improvement in the long-term storage capabilities. Liquids or very sensitive reactants can be included in the capsules. No capsules are incorporated in an undirected manner in binders. Minor propellants are oriented and cast in place with a binder or hardenable solid propellant. With increasing capsule size (see R.M. McCURDY et al "Solid Propellant Grain Containing Metal Macarocapsules of Fuel and Oxidizer", US 3 527 168) and an oriented arrangement, encapsulated propellants move into the subclass of rod-in-matrix preparations.

With smaller element dimensions and especially when the elements become no longer uniform but rather are statistically arranged, one obtains with all known propellants a transition to the heterogeneous monergole class. The preparation combinations which are thus formed can best be described as "quasimonergoles".

The same relatively poor boundaries between monergoles and diergoles can be found in the case of filled foam propellants and propellant bulk materials which are incorporated in a cast matrix. These two classes of propellant have in common modular propellant systems that they are hardly interesting for practical use in rocket drives because of the storage characteristics although the reasons differ. In the case of modular solid propellants the choice of storable propellants is limited because of energy availability grounds. Where there is a greater selection in the case of liquid propellants, these are limited because of the solid phases used in solid/liquid heterogeneous bulk materials and foam. The characteristic limitations derive from their limited suitability under propellant operating conditions where separation of the liquid phase must be avoided absolutely. While encapsulation is a possible solution, it is burdened by the complex fabrication conditions. When the capsules grow to the size of bars as in the case of modular rod-in-matrix propellant systems, the methods for composites of liquids become no longer suitable.

Apart from the storable solid propellant systems, propellants which have been frozen have been proposed. These can have components which are liquids or gases at standard temperature. Such propellants are here designated as cryosolid propellants (cryogenic solid propellants or CSP).

Monergole CSP are comprised of frozen monergoles which are liquid at room temperature. Modular CSPs are assembled from at least frozen elements which cannot be burned alone (US patent 3 137 127). The burning of modular nonmonomergole propellant elements are basically a diffuse boundary layer burn and as such, dependent upon the flow of reactants. This flow is not effected as a force flow but only proceeds by convection, the reaction is not controllable and drags whenever it predominates. As a result modular drive systems at least from a certain size of the element, require one or more ignition discharge generators (US patent 6 311 479).

In this state of the art the invention has as its object to increase the power availability of cryosolid propellants by comparison with conventional solid propellants, hybrid propellants or liquid propellants, to improve the storability and economy of a rocket propellant while avoiding expensive liquid management and eliminating simultaneously the need for permanent ignition of cryosolid propellants in a simple way.

This object is attained with the method of the type set out at the outset with the characterizing feature of claim 1 and with a solid propellant having the features of claim 10.

Advantageous refinements can be deduced from the dependent claims. The method according to the invention is

characterized above all in that by the freezing of the liquid phase in a heterogeneous liquid-solid propellant, so that the latter can be converted to a cryogenic monergole solid propellant whereby the permanent ignition can be dropped and problems of liquid management which may arise with normal liquid-solid quasimonergoles can be overcome.

The invention covers therefore all quasimonergole fuel-oxidizer combinations in which at least one of the components is a frozen liquid. The invention yields a significant power increase for carrier rockets. Apart from the environmental compatibility of the drive, the invention enables a choice of suitable propellant candidates like for example SOX or SH_2O_2 in combination with solid hydrocarbons like PE, PU, HTPB to significant operating and this starting cost saving pairings. In spite of apparent but not relevant technological problems of cryogenic solid rockets, the invention enables for them a potentially greater market in rocket technology.

Further advantages and details are given in the following description with reference to the accompanying drawing.

The invention will be described in greater detail with a specific example.

The drawing shows:

FIG. 1 a section through a polymer foam as a solid structure with a cryogenic phase incorporated therein,

FIG. 2 a section through an aluminum foam as a solid structure with an incorporated cryogenic phase and

5 FIG. 3 a section through a cast packing of polyethylene and cryogenic phase.

The rocket drive system of a solid propellant according to the invention should be made by the method of the invention.

The solid propellant should, as FIG. 1 shows, be
10 comprised of a polymer foam 1, for example of polyethylene as a fuel and a cryogenic oxidizer phase 2, for example frozen hydrogen peroxide. The foam 1 as a solid phase is initially affixed to the internal insulation of a fuel chamber wall which has not been shown and then has its capillaries filled with hydrogen peroxide
15 utilizing capillary forces or a pressure gradient and then frozen in the foam 1 as required by undercooling. The hydrogen peroxide remains as a cryogenic phase in the foam 1.

Naturally it is also possible without departing from the invention to foam the foam 1 directly in the combustion chamber.

The combustion of the solid propellant according to the invention is then effected analogously to the classical solid fuel combustion in the combustion chamber whereby the propellant is ignited by means of an igniter.

5 FIG. 2 shows an example in which an aluminum foam 3 is used as the solid phase and has its pores filled with frozen oxygen. The production of the solid propellant according to the invention is effected as has been described previously.

10 FIG. 3 shows a polyethylene packing 4 whose interior is filled with an oxidizer 5 which is liquid at room temperature and after filling has been frozen.

15 The following table shows the range of applications of the present invention in which two components are provided in each case and whereby the oxidizer formed by one component of the fuel formed by the other component are each replaceable by others. Each component can then be a homogeneous or heterogeneous mixture of different substances.

20 Note should be taken especially that naturally also high energy materials, for example representatives of high energy density matter (HEDM) as components or additives can be considered, especially dispersed atoms or molecules in a stabilizing matrix, stressed compounds (for example CUBAN), weakly covalent components

(polynitrogen compounds), excited atoms or activated atoms or molecules (triplet helium) or metallic hydrogen. The cryogenic temperature provides a stabilization of the HEDM and is absolutely relevant to its use.

5 The different possibilities of the topologies of the components are not considered here, that is in the following table, it is not critical whether foams or bulk material or packings are used or whether or not these are mentioned as examples. Materials are described as "storable" when they have the given state of
10 aggregation at room temperature and as "cryogens" when they require cooling as a rule on one of the above-mentioned grounds.

It suffices to observe that in solid rocket propellant systems all components will have the same starting point temperature regardless of their nature.

T A B L E

	<u>COMPONENT 1</u>	<u>COMPONENT 2</u>	<u>EXAMPLES</u>
5	Storable solid	Cryogenic solid	Plastic foam impregnated with frozen hydrogen peroxide (SH_2O_2) or oxygen (SOX) with fuel particles of plastic or metal embedded therein
	Storable solid	Cryogenic liquid	Capsules or tubes of cryogenic components in solid
10	Cryogenic solid	Cryogenic solid	Frozen oxygen with frozen fuel in any possible quasi-monergole composition, for example SMOX (solid methane and solid oxygen)
15	Cryogenic solid	Storable liquid	Frozen H_2O_2 with liquid fuel encapsulated therein
	Cryogenic solid	Cryogenic liquid	Combinations of frozen hydrocarbons with liquid oxygen encapsulated therein
20	Cryogenic liquid	Cryogenic or storable liquid	Bulk material (packing) of capsules of both components bonded together with an additional binder

MORPHOLOGY OF CRYOGENIC QUASI-MONERGOLES